

Re: LightSquared GPS Issue

I am writing as a high-precision GPS business on behalf of my customers and others in the Land Information fields, as well as being familiar with emergency services, the military, air traffic users, marine environment, construction industries, dam and earthquake monitoring, and even agriculture in my other role as County Supervisor for Sauk County.

From the early days of GPS development in my course work at UW-Madison College of Engineering, I have seen the utility of the United States' GPS infrastructure blossom into a \$96 billion dollar economy tied to 3.3 million U.S. jobs. I need not add that many of these businesses have been crippled in the last 4 years, and cannot stand another blow.

Those costs figures would pale if the GPS signals would be disrupted, not to mention the increased risk of catastrophes and loss of life.

I have been watching the LightSquared proposal for some time now, and despite what they have said at an earlier time about abiding by interference test results, here is what they're saying now that it's clear that they won't:

"...the company 'profoundly disagree(s) with the conclusions drawn with respect to general navigation devices.'" The statement also states that LightSquared has a legal and regulatory right to use the spectrum, and that the GPS interference problem is of the GPS industry's making!

Pardon me, GPS was not only here first, but it is a product of the United States Armed Forces, and one of their most successful products as well. One that has successfully integrated into so many areas of business and government that it is hard to imagine life without it. If the public safety component is taken into account, it impacts literally everyone in the United States.

Please don't let LightSquared disrupt the GPS signals that we all rely on for a multitude of uses, ironically by what appears to be a misguided attempt to increase accessibility to broadband by creating a needless zero-sum result for customers who want both services.

Sincerely,
William F. Wenzel
Owner, Orion Land Surveyors, LLC

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